Calcoin News

QUARTERLY MAGAZINE

of the

California State Numismatic Association

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE . . . . . Albert L. Baber

California State Numismatic Association's 46th Semi-Annual Convention in Sacramento was a fine affair . . . the educational forum ranks among the finest ever presented at a Cal-State convention, and was very well attended. As a matter of fact, registration of more than 1,300 was among the top for a northern convention. Ace Reiswig and his committees are to be commended for a job well done.

We have some exciting dates coming up in our CSNA activities: The Fall 1970 convention, to be held at the Hilton Hotel in Los Angeles in October-November, with Charles Colver as general chairman, is bound to be outstanding, as Charles is very thorough in all his endeavors. In April, 1971, at Del Webb's Towne-House in Fresno, Paul Endler will be general chairman. Paul has plans to make this even a larger event, by promoting a city-wide coin week to create more interest in attending the convention. In the Fall of 1971, we will be convening aboard the "Queen Mary"—a first! A floating coin convention! This should be on a par with an ANA convention. Dick Trowbridge, currently president of the Long Beach Coin Club, will serve as general chairman.

Watch this publication for more details on these coming events, and let your fellow local coin club members know of CSNA activities . . . as you know, there is no better publicity than 'word of mouth.'

Again I must ask those of you who have pre-ordered the CSNA reprint "Money Talks" to be patient a little longer. Some misfortunes have been experienced in the original volunteer committe, but Jim Betton has a hard-working committee now, and we should see the results soon.

I appeal to all members to talk with your CSNA officers and board members when you meet them in your local meetings, in order to let them know what your wishes are for the betterment of our hobby, and what your State organization can do. If you do not have an officer or board member residing in your area, write to one of them to offer your criticism, your ideas and suggestions. It is difficult for a small group to know the feeling of the general membership if we do not hear from you.

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ATTENTION — AUCTIONEERS

We are very desirous of having an auction at our convention in Los Angeles this fall—Oct. 30-Nov. 1.

If you are interested in handling this auction, please write without delay to our president Al Baber, 611 Oakwood Way, El Cajon, Calif. 92021, who will be glad to discuss terms with you.

Bids are also open from interested auctioneers for our Spring 1971 convention in Fresno, deadline for submitting bids will be at the Fall 1970 convention in Los Angeles.

We are planning ahead for our grand and largest yet convention to be held on the "Queen Mary" in the Fall of 1971. In order to give the successful bidder time to properly line up this auction, deadline for submitting bids will also be at our Los Angeles 1970 convention.

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RATION TOKENS

Did you know there is a **SOCIETY OF RATION TOKEN COLLECTORS?** No, I didn't either, until I saw an exhibit of World War II ration tokens and coupons at our recent CSNA convention at Sacramento.

This society was organized in 1966, and now has members residing in the United States, England, Canada, Hungary and India, making it quite international. Membership dues are $2 per year; which includes a copy of the quarterly "Ration Board."

Complete details as to membership may be obtained from the secretary, Mrs. Viola Thomas, 5751-63rd St., Sacramento, Calif. 95824.

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Canadian commemorative dollars were issued in 1935, 1939, 1949, 1958 and 1964; with another one coming up in 1970. A commemorative nickel was issued in 1951.

Left to right: Edward Rochette, Norman W. Williams, Thomas W. Becker, Maurice M. Gould, Clyde Hubbard. (Photography by Howard Chase)

CSNA Seminar

Our **Second Annual All-Day Educational Numismatic Symposium,** with the Long Beach Coin Club as host, held in Long Beach, Saturday, April 28, was termed a grand success by all who attended. More than 100 were present, and the four speakers came from Canada, the United States, and Mexico.

President **Al Baber** opened the seminar with greetings from CSNA and with an introduction of important guests including **Herbert M. Bergen,** ANA president.

Maurice M. Gould was moderator. Guest speakers were: **Norman W. Williams** of New Westminster, B.C., Canada, with the subject "Newfoundland Paper Currency—Public and Private"; **Edward Rochette** of Colorado Springs, Colorado, on "Mexican Religious Amulets"; **Thomas W. Becker** of Drexel Hill, Pennsylvania, on "To Touch A Coin And Understand"; and **Clyde Hubbard** of Mexico City, Mexico, on "Numismatics of Mexico." All four are leading numismatists in their sections of North America, and we were fortunate in being able to secure such outstanding speakers.

A round-table discussion and question and answer period followed the lectures, after which the invitational "Best of Show" exhibits were viewed. Exhibitors were: **James Ray, Dan Harley, Roy Hill, John Freund, Gordon Greene** and junior **Debbie Martin.**

The symposium committee consisted of: Chairman **Maurice M. Gould, Charles G. Colver, William O. Wisslead, Richard Trowbridge, Dan Harley** and **Irwin Brotman.**

Beautifully engraved silver CSNA medals were given to the committee members and exhibitors and special medals were presented to the four members of the panel.

The evening was concluded with a dinner on board the SS Princess Louise, docked in the Long Beach Marina.

Thanks are due our hard working committee members and exhibitors, and to the four speakers who came at their own expense to participate in this educational program.

In keeping with our policy of furthering education in numismatics, plans are being formulated for the third annual event to be held in the spring of 1971.

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The 1935 Waitangi crown of New Zealand is said to be that country's rarest coin.

The Mint At Guadalupe Y Calvo, Mexico

By SOL ALEXANDER, Long Beach, CSNA 481

Those present at the November 1964 meeting of the **Santa Barbara Coin Club** were fortunate to hear one of the most delightful and entertaining speakers to visit Santa Barbara, when **Sol Alexander** spoke on the mint at Guadalupe Calvo in Mexico.

Alexander began by mentioning briefly the mint system of Mexico, at least that of the Republic from 1824 until about 1905. In addition to the mint in Mexico City, there were thirteen branch mints operating under the mint laws — from Oaxaca to Hermosillo.

In 1835 there was a group of Mexican prospectors working around a little area in the remote region of Chihuahua State. The only way to reach the location was by mule train. Suddenly they discovered the first veins of silver and gold, and within about two months from twelve or so prospectors there arose a community of 3000 people. In about four months the area had grown to 45,000 people, and some of the leading citizens of the area begged the then governor of the State of Chihuahua, Jose Joaquin Calvo, to establish law and order, and a government there. In selecting a name ,they did him honor by chosing his name and that of the patron saint of Mexico — "Guadalupe y Calvo". There ensued quite a spectacular period.

Guadalupe y Calvo is 7,526 feet elevation, high up in the Sierras, in an extremely isolated area. The Comanche and Apache Indians roamed the area, and mule trains heading out taking silver and gold to the already established mint at Chihuahua frequently were raided by either the Indians or by Mexican bandits. These attacks often occurred eight or ten miles out of town, with the loss of mules and ore, and the killing of the mule-skinners conducting the train out of the area.

Alexander went on to tell an interesting little story about such a train that was attacked by a group of bandidos in 1839. They murdered everyone in the train, and took the silver and gold and the mules. Somehow or other one of their members was able to obtain some of the dies, and they actually minted some coins. This remains a mystery to today. They were apprehended in the following manner: one of the men was spending his money like a drunken sailor in a little town in the State of Jalisco, and being of a peasant class, he became very noticable. A man of his stature and position in life couldn't have had such a vast amount of gold and silver to spend as he was doing, and he was arrested. After some severe interrogation, the officials were able to get an admission out of him, that he was one of the party who had robbed the ore train. He implicated the others, who were captured and eventually shot, with exception of one who was given life imprisonment.

Since the citizens realized they couldn't continue to lose these vast quantities of ore, they pleaded with the president and eventually a bill was put through congress allowing a mint to be established there. The lessees of the mint at Chihuahua objected, complaining it would interfere with their business and would harm them unreasonably, that there was no need for a mint in that area. But it was to no avail because the actual facts were that a majority of the ore was going to the mint at Durango anyway and very little going to Chihuahua. A permit was given to MacIntosh and Co., an English firm, to build the mint on their own account and to start minting coins of the same design and denomination as were minted in the Mexico City mint and the other branches — ¼ real, ½ real, 1, 2, 4 and 8 reales of silver, and in gold ½, 1, 2, 4 and 8 escudos. There was no need for copper coins because there was no quantity of copper in the area.

About 1843 they began minting coins. In 1847 they installed steam for power, whereas previously they had used mule power, and greater quantities of coins were minted with greater rapidity. Their next move was to consign their interest, title, etc., in their contract to a firm known as Jecker, Torre and Co. This company already had a lease on a mint of their own in Culiacan. They became very notorious for the fraud they forced upon the government of Mexico under President Miguel Miramon at a later

date. Shortly after they acquired ownership of the operation in Guadalupe y Calvo they began, by various means, to discourage the miners from bringing their gold and silver to them, mainly by just not paying them for thirty or ninety days or even six months. The miners began taking their ore to the firm's other operation, and there they were paid promptly. Jecker, Torre and Co. had a purpose, of course. Eventually in 1851-1852 they began to complain that they didn't have enough ore to mint at Guadalupe y Calvo and that they were unable to operate it economically. Again, by bribery, intrigue, etc., they were able to have the central government make an order to cancel the lease of Jecker, Torre and Co. for their operation. They had already shut down the mint. Then they turned around and filed suit against the federal government of Mexico for damages of 370,000 pesos, somewhere around $400,000, a huge sum in the middle of the nineteenth century. They were successful in winning their suit and eventually were paid off by Santa Ana.

The fellows responsible for all this bribery and wasting of the money of the citizens of Mexico were well known to many. Documentary evidence was in the files of the government, but before the prosecuting attorney could obtain the documents, they were found to be missing. No one was ever actually punished for the crime, and between fourteen and fifteen million dollars worth of gold and silver was taken out of the area.

The mint was in operation only between 1842 and 1852. Today, only one or two miners are left, and the mint building is being used as a prison for the county. At the time of Alexander's visit, there were about nine or ten prisoners being held there.

Alexander explained that all of the dies appeared to have been made in Mexico City, with exception of the ¼ real silver of 1843, 1844 and 1845. These were prepared by a fellow named Luciano Rovira, a designer in the Mexico City mint, and were completely unauthorized. Those found with LR on them are quite unusual.

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NEWS, VIEWS AND WHOS

North of the Tehachapis

By JERRY KROEGER, CSNA 18-4

Central California Coin Club celebrated its fifth anniversary with a record attendance of 91 people. Games, door prizes and refreshments were enjoyed by those present.

The club meets the second and fourth Sundays at 1:30 p.m. at the Progressive Home Club in Fresno.

Diablo Numismatic Society heard **Karl Windon,** president of the **Hayward Coin Club** speak on his specialty, Two Cent pieces, at the March meeting.

During National Coin Week the club had competitive coin exhibits, with the winners being **Ronald White, Helen Lockwood** and **Carl Avrit,** a junior.

Viola Thomas of **Sacramento Valley Coin Club** is the International Secretary of the **Society of Ration Token Collectors.** This group is currently seeking funds to publish the first catalog on OPA tokens and ration currency.

Printed from SVCC bulletin: Do you remember how isolated and strange you felt as a guest or new member? Look and see who these people are and make it a point to speak to them . . . remember, you have a common interest . . . Coins. And in addition, you may make a new friend.

Winners of the special drawing held by SVCC (host to the CSNA convention last April) were:

Sid Green, Tulare.....Gold Type Set
Harold Centman, San Diego
$20 gold piece
Faye Beckman, Stockton
$10 gold piece
Jean Phillips, Napa.....$5 gold piece
Ray Bercot, Sacramento
$2½ gold piece
Sheldon G. Wirt, Atherton....CC dollar
Frank LaBella, Sacramento..CC dollar
P. Boltz, San Diego.....CC dollar

Congratulations to these lucky persons, from all over the State of California.

The tenth annual **North Bay Coin Club** coin show was termed a grand success, according to **William Edwards,** general chairman. Registration was slightly more than 450; and 30 dealers had bourse space with a good variety of merchandise.

The exhibits were very fine, with prizes being issued in four categories: U. S. coins, foreign, medals and tokens, and juniors. Best of show was won by **Debbie Palmini** (a junior) with the excellent display entitled: "Vanished Coins of the United States".

Plans are being made for the eleventh annual show to be held in 1971.

A small group, **The Sacramento Israel Numismatic Society,** meets the fourth Thursday of each month at one of the members homes. For the location of the next meeting call 927-6629 and ask for the president of SINS. This group is interested in the coins and medals of Palestine, Israel and Judiac material. Guests are always welcome and you need not be Jewish to join.

Darvin (Ace) Reiswig, who worked so many hours on our recent convention in Sacramento has moved his Common to Key Coin Co. to 4431 Freeport Blvd., Sacramento.

The East Bay Coin Club marked its 22nd Anniversary with a come-as-you-are Dutch Treat buffet dinner in the Garden Room of the Hotel Claremont in Berkeley. Present for the festivities were four past presidents, **Ed Lane, Stan Hawley, Roy Hill,** and **Walt Ritchie.**

At the March meeting, **Steve Album** spoke on "Buying Coins in the Middle East". It was most interesting as he talked on the coins that he had acquired during his latest trip to the Mid East.

Fresno Numismatic Society listened to **Ralph (Curley) Mitchell** tell about the Franklin Mint, its production of coins and medals, at the March meeting.

Plans are in the process for the fourth annual Central California stamp and coin show, to be held in the cafeteria at the fairgrounds on July 11 and 12. **Everett Phillips** will be the general chairman and exhibit chairman. **Herb Hord,** bourse chairman, **Paul Endler,** publicity chairman. These men will do their usual good job.

Pacific Coast Numismatic Society of San Francisco is getting ready to enjoy its 55th annual Banquet on June 27, 7 p.m., at Sabella's Restaurant on Fisherman's Wharf.

Speakers at previous meetings were **Edward J. Hennessy,** "Investments Today and Tomorrow"; **Ralph A. Mitchell,** Franklin Mint; and **Roy Hill,** "S-Mint Coins".

It was a clean sweep for PCNS on the best articles in the 1969 issues of Calcoin News. Our member, **Wm. deVroom,** was awarded the Silver Literary Medal for his article "A Remarkable Dutch Shilling". **Cmdr. H. F. Bowker** was awarded the Bronze Literary Medal for "Notes on East Asian Numismatics".

Delta Coin Club combined its installation of 1970 Officers with the Annual Club Dinner, held recently at the Shangri-Lee Restaurant in Stockton, Calif., with third term president, **John D. Pettine** presiding. He introduced his 1970 officers: vice president, **Jerry Rakoncza;** treasurer, **Douglas Pryor;** recording secretary, **June Willson;** corresponding secretary, and news editor, **Maxine Novetzke;** librarian, **Peter Beckman** and property custodian, **Syd Kass.**

Norman Pruitt, founder, first president and life member of the **Delta Coin Club,** gave a resume of the club's progress since its birth in 1956 with 30 interested persons, to its present steady 100 plus membership.

Syd Kass, past president and life member, spoke on his work with and for the Junior members; presenting each Junior present a magnifying glass donated by Mr. R. McGaw, of Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Syd Kass

is widely known as Director of the NECA Youth Program.

San Francisco Coin Club president **Stephen I. Gifford** announced that Sunday, April 5, was the date for their seventh annual coin fair, and that it was a huge success.

More than 30 exhibitors vied for awards in a competitive exhibit, with a separate award group for Junior collectors.

San Francisco Exposition medals and coins were on view, including 1894 Mid Winter Exposition which was also held in Golden Gate Park and where this year starting April 4 began a round of centennial activities for Golden Gate Park itself.

Northern California Numismatic Association will hold its annual convention September 17-20 at the Jack Tar Hotel, San Francisco.

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South of the Tehachapis

By NONA G. MOORE, CSNA 1573

GOOD WILL AMBASSADOR

Clay Read leaves for South Africa in October to exhibit and represent the California Exonumist Society.

WOODEN MONEY COLLECTORS

California Wooden Money Association's monthly bulletin advises the members of coming meetings as well as how to obtain available old and new wooden money from original sources. Those interested in becoming a CWMA member should write: 4237 Deeboyar Ave., Lakewood, Calif. 90712.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Israel Coin Club celebrates its fifth anniversary with a birthday party in conjunction with C.O.I.N., June 21. Everyone is invited.

A 33rd birthday celebration occurred June 1, with a potluck dinner for the **San Diego Numismatic Society. Dorothy Baber** and **Stu Edgerton** were in charge.

University Numismatic Club, Riverside, celebrated its fifth anniversary in May.

PAID-UP MEMBERSHIP DRAWING

A lucky member of **Pomona Valley Coin Club** went home richer by 18 silver dollars just for having his dues up to date and being present at a recent meeting.

SPECIALIZED GROUP

San Gabriel Valley Coin Club is a unique group in that it has a limited membership of 75, and a waiting list of applicants. The club stresses a studious approach to numismatics and has several serious research-minded collectors as members. One of its projects is establishment of the finest numismatic library in San Gabriel Valley.

FABULOUS FIFTEENTH

The 15th annual **NASC** convention was expertly organized and well attended.

Abe Kosoff Mc'd the banquet at which **Maurice Gould** was awarded the Richard T. Goodson Award as outstanding contributor in 1969 to numismatics in Southern California. Best of show award went to **Douglas Wark** of Florida, whose fantastic display of Canadian coins, including the 1921 half dollar, amassed five full display cases. **Los Angeles Coin Club** earned the President's Trophy for best club bulletins during 1969. Ever-faithful ANA president **Herb Bergen** highlighted the banquet by installing the new NASC officers.

WEDDING BELLS

Congratulations to **William "Bill" Wisslead** and **Elizabeth Goodson**—two very active and avid numismatists—who were married last March.

ANA GOLD AWARD

That "shy, bashful guy," **Dwight Safford,** was the first San Diego County numismatist to receive the ANA Gold Award in February for ten numismatic talks.

Al Baber received his Gold Award in April.

JUNIOR COLLECTORS

Downey Numismatists have instituted a "Buy Board" for the junior members to enable them to start a collection or help finish one. Donations from several of the club members got the project off to a good start.

ERROR CLUB

OCNEC meets the second Tuesday of each month in the Santa Ana Library, 8th and Ross, Santa Ana. The public is invited to every session, and each one present receives an error coin. This custom began when the club was founded in March 1967; and it is said the group is the largest localized club on errors in the country.

LEADING EXHIBITOR

Howard Gullick, Downey Numismatists, has taken seven first awards and two second awards at club meetings, besides two at NASC and another at a Las Vegas show, among many others. Gullick is donating all trophies for Downey's junior exhibitors in 1970, as well as having a non-competitive display on hand monthly as a guide for beginners in exhibiting. Another willing numismatist promoting interest for our numismatists of tomorrow—the juniors.

NEW LIBRARY

Joel Rettew presented the **Downey Numismatists** with 34 books to start a new library for members in good standing. **Phyllis Duncan** and **Alvina Fontaine** are in charge of this project.

MEMORABILIA

Howard Chase, faithful photographer at most Southern California club meetings, shows and conventions, generously donated photos taken at various activities in past years concerning the **Downey Numismatists,** so the scrapbook on the history of that club could be augmented.

OFF TO ENGLAND

S/Sgt. Norman Sturgess, San Bernardino, and his talented wife, **Bess,** have departed from our midst and are now enjoying a temporary new existence in "Merrie Olde England." The **Fontana United Numismatists** miss them, but expect to hear with regularity about their numismatic connections, as well as a bit about their life over there.

SOMETHING DIFFERENT

Orange Coast Coin Club, Newport Beach, gives 20 silver dollars to the club in the area which has had the most members from its club attend a regular meeting of OCCC!

Members of visiting clubs must show membership cards of the club they represent and OCCC maintains a record so their presence is accurately noted. Orange County dealers donate the silver dollars.

MEMBER #500

At its April meeting **Fontana United Numismatist** member #1, **Amos House,** presented member #500, **Alex Jamarillo,** with appropriate special gifts and remembrances of the occasion, including a 500 mark piece, 500 lire, 500 reis, among others. Coincidentally it was also Jamarillo's 19th birthday, so FUN properly remembered the occasion.

DOWNEY CELEBRATES

145 members and guests were present at the April meeting of **Downey Numismatists,** when **James L. Betton Jr.,** president of NASC, installed incoming officers with a very impressive ceremony. Each new officer was presented with a candle with instructions to receive a light from the preceding person, symbolizing the passing of numismatic knowledge from person to person.

Celebrating its ninth anniversary, Downey Numismatists had a special decorated birthday cake for the occasion.

MERGER

Compton Coin Club and **Lakewood Coin Club** merged in March. They are now the **Triangle Coin Club.** A new club emblem is being designed. Charter membership closes July 15.

Meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month at the Equitable Savings & Loan Assoc., 16804 Bellflower Blvd., Bellflower.

UPLAND RETURNS TO UPLAND!

Upon losing its lease in Ontario, **Upland Coin Club** immediately found new quarters in the Recreation Bldg., Upland Memorial Park, Upland. The club meets the third Saturday of each month.

NINTH COIN-O-RAMA

West Covina Club held a successful coin-o-rama in May, largely due to teamwork with **Ann** and **Bill Dorman, Mildred** and **Randy Atkins, Deanna** and **Len Jasmin, Bev Charpentier, Amos House, Mary Peters** and **Frank Strauss** leading the way.

C.E.S. QUARTERLY MEETING

California Exonumist Society held its quarterly meeting at the NASC convention in February. **Al Baber,** who served on the U.S. Assay Com-

mission in 1969, spoke on the "Trials of the Pyx." **Max Schwartz**, of New York, a 1945 member of the Assay Commission, told of the changes in the commission over the last 24 years. **Don Dow**, artist and sculptor of medallic art, spoke on "John Wesley Powell and Grand Canyon Comemorative Medals."

A CES show will be held July 19 at the Pomona Woman's Club, 172 West Monterey Rd., Pomona, when another regular quarterly meeting will occur. Speakers will be **Ethel Lenhert** and **R. B. Carter.**

LUCKY!

Upland Coin Club won the $5 gold piece given by the **Retail Numismatic Dealers' Association** to the club having the most members attending the RDNA second annual coin show in January.

ACCOLADES

Chester Krause, publisher of "Numismatic News," presented **Raymond Toy** of El Cajon with the 10th Annual Nathan Gold Memorial Award for Ray's literary contributions to the paper money field. Since 1964 Toy has published four widely consulted volumes on military currency, a previously unpopular series due to lack of knowledge and reference material. Toy's efforts in cataloguing this currency has significantly expanded the paper money field.

Prior to Krause's presentation, Ray had received the 1970 Literary Award from the Paper Money Collectors of Michigan for his articles.

Without a doubt, Toy can be classifield as the country's leading exponent in this field.

TRANSFER OF THE GAVEL

Downey Numismatists—Bob Allebe, president; **Lester Ellis**, first vice president; **Dr. Donald Bach**, second vice president; **Caletta Gilreath**, treasurer; **Alvina Fontaine**, secretary.

East San Diego Coin Club—Lowell Lundberg, president; **Ed Raymond**, treasurer; **Robert Vik**, secretary.

Israel Coin Club—Milton Fishgold, president; **Nathan Bromberg**, first vice president; **Claire Abelson**, second vice president; **Babe Baker**, treasurer; **Leona Thomas**, recording secretary; **Sara Breslow**, corresponding secretary.

Monterey Park Coin Club — Olin Carter, president; **Paul Schymos**, vice president **Vera Schymos**, corresponding secretary; **Leroy Goodin**, treasurer, **Natel Goodin**, recording secretary.

Numismatic Association of Southern California — James Betton Jr., president; **Ben Abelson**, president-elect; **William Wisslead**, Vice President; **James Waldorf**, corresponding secretary; **Milton Fishgold**, recording secretary; **Ethel Lenhert**, treasurer; **Thelma Case**, historian.

Oceanside-Carlsbad Coin Club—Tom Brown, president; **Cecil Monroe**, first vice president; **Edward Bradbury**, second vice president; **Sally Vorbau**, third vice president; **Howard Young**, treasurer; **Betty Young**, secretary.

Poway Coin Club—Jack Darnell, president; **Charles Milham**, vice president; **Mary Powell**, secretary, **Dawn Baumer**, treasurer.

Orange County Numismatic Error Club—William Wells, president; **William Martin**, vice president; **Jack Ackerman**, secretary.

San Gabriel Valley Club—Charles Byers, president; **Dr. Lloyd Ermshar**, vice president; **Annette Wilcox**, secretary; **James Kiningham**, treasurer.

SPEAKERS LIST

G. A. Ayers, "Importance of Juniors in the Wooden Money Field" — **CWMA**, Torrance.

Joe Garside, "Colonial Coins and Historical Places" (slides)—**Convair Coineers**, San Diego.

Fred Coops, "The Future of Coin Collecting"; **William Wisslead**, "Portrait of Maria Theresa"—**Covina Coin Club**, West Covina.

Mary Ellen Newell — "The Fundamentals of Coin Error Collecting"—**Downey Numismatists.**

Al Baber, "Copper in Our Coinage" —**East San Diego Coin Club.**

Bill Wisslead, "Portrait of Maria Theresa"—**East Los Angeles Coin Club.**

Xenia Kreizel, "Irish Coinage;" **John Lenker**, "FAO Coinage"; **Fred Hacker**, "Australia . . . Her Country and Coinage"—**Fontana United Numismatists.**

Fred Hacker, "Living in Australia" —**General Dynamics Coin Club.**

Jerry Yahalom and **Nate Bromberg**, "Pidyon Haben Coin" (slide lecture); **Claire** and **Ben Abelson**, "A Tour through Israel"—**Israel Coin Club**, Woodland Hills.

Dwight Safford, "A City in Motion, Transportation - Wise"; **Bill West**, "Funny Stories About Money" — **LaMesa Numismatic Society.**

Richard Trowbridge, "Crowns of Great Britain" (slides); **Sol Alexander,** "Coins of Mexico"; **Len Sterling,** "Golden Gloves Tournament and Medals"—Long Beach Coin Club.

Tom Brown, "U.S. Cents"; **Lester Fulcher,** "U.S. Dimes"; **Howard Young,** "U.S. Nickels"; **Edward Bradbury,** "U.S. Quarters" — **Oceanside Carlsbad Coin Club.**

Charles Colver, "U.S. Cents" — **Orange Coast Coin Club.**

Ralph Mitchell, "The Ultimate Achievement" (film); **John Ballard,** "Mexican Revolutionary Paper Money, 1913-16"; **Earl O'Cathey,** "Wooden Money" — **Orange County Coin Club.**

William Wright, "Mint Errors" — **Orange County Numismatic Error Club (OCNEC).**

Wayne Dennis, "Wooden Money"; **Tom Montgomery,** "Experiences in Spain, Portugal and North Africa"— **Pomona Valley Coin Club.**

Esther Taller, "Colors of Israel"— **Pico Rivera Coin Club.**

Stu Edgerton, "Ancient Japanese Coinage"; **Joe Garside,** "Circle of Friends of the Medallion"; **William Wright,** "Error Coins and How They Occur";**James Hunt,** "California Private Gold"; **Howard Musick,** "Wooden Money"; **Ronald Earle,** "Collecting in the Future" — **San Diego Numismatic Society.**

Karl Stephens, "European Numismatics" — **SIN, San Gabriel Valley Chapter.**

Wayne Dennis, "Wooden Money of American History" — **Southern Hub Coin Club.**

Elmo J. Moody, "Oriental Coins"— **University Numismatic Club, Riverside.**

William Wisslead, "Maria Theresa"; **Bryan Burke,** "German Inflation Money"—**Upland Coin Club.**

Bob Foster, "Coins of Japan and Korea"; **Irwin Brotman,** "India's Temple Tokens"—**Whittier Coin Club.**

If any of the officers of the local clubs desire to contact any of the above listed speakers their addresses may be secured from our Secretary Charles G. Colver or from the local club secretary with address as shown in separate listing in this issue of Calcoin News of our member clubs.

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REPORTS FROM . . .

OUR OUT-OF-STATE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

As usual you can depend on our CSNA members being in the lime light! Appointed to the **1970 Assay Commission,** for the annual "Trial of the Pyx", held in Philadelphia last February, were: **Thomas F. Mason,** CSNA-2097, Cheyenne, Wyo., and **Henry Sutliff, Jr.,** CSNA-60, of Richmond, Va. (Many of our older San Francisco members will remember Sutliff, as he was a resident of that city prior to moving to Virginia years ago.)

Our congratulations to these two out-of-state members for having been appointed to this important commission.

Our best wishes to **Ray Manville,** CSNA-2140, formerly of Connecticut and now residing in Pennsylvania, who recently accepted a position with the Franklin Mint with duties on the East Coast similar to those of our California member Ralph "Curly" Mitchell on the West Coast.

Ray was on the West Coast a few months ago, and it was a pleasure for your editor to again meet him; the previous time having been about a year ago in Connecticut.

Our Seattle, Wash., member **Byron Johnson** was general chairman of the Pacific Northwest Numismatic Association's 26th annual convention, held in Seattle, April 18-20. We are sure that with Byron's executive abilities the show was well handled.

Referring to the article in the last issue of Calcoin News, advising our member No. 31 of Phoenix, Ariz. — **W. C. Connor** — had been placed on the "honorary" list so he would continue to receive Calcoin News. Our secretary received the following letter a few months ago from Bill:

"Thank you so very much for the honorary CSNA card. Seems thanks is so little to give for so much. Hope I can get back to my native state so

I can thank you in person. So until then I ask my good friends the Irish leprechauns to watch over you and to guide you to the best of all you may seek in life."

Thanks for your letter, Bill, and we hope you will continue to enjoy Calcoin News for many years.

We read in Coin World a few weeks ago that our Phoenix, Ariz., member, **Dottie Dow,** was the subject of a profile appearing in the Phoenix Gazette.

Dottie is well known to thousands of numismatists and exonumists in this country and abroad for her work with elongated coins and medals. Congratulations, Dottie, on having been the subject of this very fine write up in your local paper.

Our thanks to our St. Charles, Missouri, member, **Jerry Bates,** for his participation by exhibiting at our recent Sacramento convention. For further details see the convention write up and the listing of exhibits and awards.

It was indeed a pleasure for your editor to meet **Fred B. Green** of Iola, Wisc., where several numismatic publications are put out by Krause Publications. (On his eastern trip last year, this was one of the places your editor missed.)

Fred is joining CSNA — thus adding to our ever-growing number of out-of-state members.

The **Texas Numismatic Association** had on display a large number of the choicest coins from the museum of the Banco de Mexico, Mexico City. In the six cases of rare gold and silver coins, displayed at the TNA convention, were specimens of money used by the pre-Columbian Aztecs, specially selected coins of the Spanish kings, rarities of the Mexican Revolutions, as well as scarce Republican government issues, coins which many of the exhibit viewers may never see again.

This was only the second time the Banco de Mexico has permitted any of its museum pieces to leave Mexico, and was due primarily to the efforts of the well-known Texas dealer and collector, **Virgil Hancock.**

Many of our readers will no doubt wish they had been in Houston last April. Our congratulations to TNA for having been able to have this outstanding display.

Matthew J. van der Voort, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, is writing a column for "De Telegraff" in Amsterdam. This newspaper is the first to have a numismatic column, and van der Voort states it has the largest circulation in that country and the column has created considerable interest and curiosity.

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OUR MEMBER CLUBS

1175	ACORN COIN CLUB	P.O. Box 125, Paso Robles 93446
1851	ALAMEDA NAS COIN CLUB	co Mrs. Sandy Adams 16663 Winding Blvd., San Leandro 94578
871	AMERICAN NUMIS. SOC.	Broadway at 156th St. New York, N.Y. 10032
1819	ANCIENT COIN CLUB OF AMERICA	P.O. Box 227, Canoga Park 91305
889	BAKERSFIELD COIN CLUB	127 Quincy, Bakersfield 93307
117	BAY CITIES COIN CLUB	c/o C. N. Wedertz, 2132 Pier Ave. Santa Monica 90405
1419	BE-LO-CE COIN CLUB	P.O. Box 463, Brawley 92227
1453	BLYTHE COIN CLUB	950 E. Barnard St., Blythe 92225
1100	CALIF. EXONUMIST SOCIETY	P.O. Box 745, San Diego 92112
2073	CALIF. WOODEN MONEY ASSOC.	18814 Florwood Ave., Torrance 90504
1635	CENTRAL. CALIF. COIN CLUB	P.O. Box 1811, Fresno 93717
2193	CHICO-DURHAM COIN CLUB	P.O. Box 66, Durham 95938
2199	CLAIREMONT COIN CLUB	4570 Rolfe Rd., San Diego 92117
987	CONVAIR COINEERS	c/o V. L. Bacon, 9115 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. San Diego 92123

1750 COUNCIL OF INT'L NUMISMATICS .....c/o J. Yahalom, Box 893 Woodland Hills 91364
11-5 COVINA COIN CLUB .....c/o Mary E. Peters, 412 N. Lang Ave. West Covina 91790
1952 CROWN CITY COIN CLUB .....c/o W. L. Wenker Jr. 394 E. Fourth St., Perris 92370
1020 CULVER CITY COIN CLUB .....c/o Millicent Fishel, 449 28th Ave. Venice 90291

1380 DALY CITY NUMISMATIC SOCIETY .....P.O. Box 175, Daly City 94016
1889 DAVIS COIN CLUB .....P.O. Box 231, Davis 95616
1360 DELANO COIN CLUB .....P.O. Box 303, Delano 93215
746 DELTA COIN CLUB OF CALIF. .....c/o Maxine Novetzke 1816 Stanford Ave., Stockton 95205
898 DESERT COIN PROSPECTORS CLUB .....P.O. Box 213, Victorville 92392
1351 DIABLO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY .....P.O. Box 21112, Concord 94521
1400 DOWNEY NUMISMATISTS .....P.O. Box 165, Downey 90240

358 EAST BAY COIN CLUB .....c/o Roy Hill, 1140 Sutter St. San Francisco 94109
2137 EAST LOS ANGELES COIN CLUB ..932 S. Gerhart, East Los Angeles 90022
13-3 EAST SAN DIEGO COIN CLUB .....c/o Ed L. Raymond 4741 Panarama Dr., San Diego 92116
1527 ECHO PARK COIN CLUB .....P.O. Box 6072, Glendale 91205
2038 EUREKA COIN CLUB .....P.O. Box 505, Eureka 95501

1642 FONTANA UNITED NUMISMATISTS .....P.O. Box 71, Fontana 92335
796 FRESNO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY .....P.O. Box 41, Fresno 93707

828 GARDEN GROVÈ COIN CLUB .....P.O. Box 402, Garden Grove 92640
1426 GENERAL DYNAMICS COIN CLUB .....P.O. Box 2507, Pomona 91766
951 GLENDALE COIN CLUB .....c/o Carol M. Booth 4545 Kingswell Ave., Los Angeles 90027

201 HANFORD COIN CLUB .....P.O. Box 1117, Hanford 93230

1722 IMPERIAL BEACH COIN CLUB.....720-B Calla Ave., Imperial Beach 92032
1268 INT'L NUMIS. SOC. OF SAN DIEGO .....P.O. Box 577, La Mesa 92041
1742 ISRAEL COIN CLUB .....P.O. Box 893, Woodland Hills 91364
2136 ISRAEL NUMIS. SOC. OF SAN GABRIEL VALLEY ..... c/o Esther Taller, P.O. Box 637, Rosemead 91770

1004 LAKE TAHOE COIN CLUB .....P.O. Box 5462, South Lake Tahoe 95705
15-9 LA MESA NUMISMATIC SOCIETY .....c/o Mrs. Dorothy Baber 611 Oakwood Way, El Cajon 92021
2064 LA MIRADA COIN CLUB.....P.O. Box 674, La Mirada 90638
1127 LAWNDALE COIN CLUB .....c/o Lawndale Library 14615 Burin Ave., Lawndale 90260
1509 LEISURE WORLD COIN CLUB .....c/o Ethylen Tallon Apt. 70-D, 13410 St. Andrews Dr., Seal Beach 90740
808 LIBERTY NUMIS. SOC. .....1201 Geraldine Way, No. 3, Belmont 94002
2181 LOMPOC COIN CLUB .....P.O. Box 105, Lompoc 93436
409 LONG BEACH COIN CLUB .....P.O. Box 344, Los Alamitos 90720
78 LOS ANGELES COIN CLUB .....c/o Walter T. Snyder 8100 Lena Ave., Canoga Park 91304

2173 MAINLINER COIN CLUB .....c/o Mrs. Cyril Watrons 19 Del Monte Place, San Mateo 94403
1524 MARIN COIN CLUB .....P.O. Box 329, Mill Valley 94942
1869 MAR VISTA COIN CLUB ....P.O. Box 534, Gateway Sta., Culver City 90230
1386 MONROVIA COIN CLUB .....P.O. Box 64, Monrovia 91017
701 MONTEREY PARK COIN CLUB .....c/o Mrs. Vera Schymos 8555 E. Marshall St., Rosemead 91770
1448 MONTEREY PENINSULA COIN CLUB .....P.O. Box 354 Pacific Grove 93950

1099 NAPA VALLEY COIN CLUB .....P.O. Box 2154, Napa 94558
1357 NORTH BAY COIN CLUB .....P.O. Box 313, Sta. "A", Richmond 94808

1572 NORTH HOLLYWOOD COIN CLUB .....P.O. Box 1003, Arleta 91331
1144 NO. CALIF. NUMISMATIC ASSOC. .....P.O. Box 5075, San Jose 95150
709 NUMIS. ASSOC. OF SO. CALIF. .....c/o James Waldorf
6381 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood 90028
2017 NUMIS. COUNCIL OF ORANGE COUNTY .....2053 Cypress Ave.
Santa Ana 92707

1584 OCEANSIDE-CARLSBAD COIN CLUB .....c/o Charles Nissen
1103 Oak Ave., Carlsbad 92008
1423 ORANGE COAST COIN CLUB .....903 W. 17th St. Sp. No. 1
Costa Mesa 92627
1-12 ORANGE COUNTY COIN CLUB .....P.O. Box 2004, Santa Ana 92707
2007 ORANGE COUNTY NUMISMATIC ERROR CLUB ..P.O. Box 5284
Santa Ana 92704
2036 OXNARD COIN CLUB .....P.O. Box 855, Oxnard 93030

2219 PACIFIC BEACH COIN CLUB .....c/o Mrs. Helen Bass
1728 Grand Ave., San Diego, Calif. 92109
1-32 PACIFIC COAST NUMIS. SOCIETY .....c/o George W. Sailor
381 Warren Dr., San Francisco 94131
1195 PAJARO VALLEY COIN CLUB OF WATSONVILLE ..P.O. Box 605
Watsonville 95076
652 PENINSULA COIN CLUB .....c/o Roy Hill, 1140 Sutter St.
San Francisco 94109
1505 POMONA VALLEY COIN CLUB .....P.O. Box 36, Pomona 91766
1912 POWAY COIN CLUB .....P.O. Box 144, Poway 92064

1107 REDDING NUMISMATIC SOCIETY .....P.O. Box 1831, Redding 96001
1430 REDLANDS COIN CLUB .....1315 Fifth Ave., Redlands 92373
390 REDWOOD EMPIRE COIN CLUB .....c/o Guy L. Chapman
Santa Rosa 95404

1169 SACRAMENTO VALLEY COIN CLUB ....P.O. Box 8714, Sacramento 95822
2-3 SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY COIN CLUB .....c/o Fred W. Coops
457 N. "E" St., San Bernardino 92401
1128 SAN DIEGO COUNTY INTER-CLUB NUMIS. COUNCIL
c/o Gladys Moulton, 914 Grove Ave., Imperial Beach 92032
1-35 SAN DIEGO NUMIS. SOCIETY .....P.O. Box 1145, San Diego 92112
498 SAN FERNANDO VALLEY COIN CLUB ..10647 Irma Ave., Tujunga 91042
15-8 SAN FRANCISCO COIN CLUB .....P.O. Box 6028, San Francisco 94101
584 SAN GABRIEL VALLEY COIN CLUB ..P.O. Box 3412, So. El Monte 91733
2-8 SAN JOSE COIN CLUB .....P.O. Box 965, San Jose 95108
899 SANTA ANA COIN CLUB .....P.O. Box 2073, Santa Ana 92707
978 SANTA BARBARA COIN CLUB .....P.O. Box 73, Santa Barbara 93102
892 SANTA CRUZ COIN CLUB .....P.O. Box 991, Santa Cruz 95060
1557 SIN, SAN GABRIEL VALLEY CHAPTER .....c/o Frank Strauss
623 W. Lemon Ave., Monrovia 91016
1126 SOCIETY FOR INT'L. NUMIS (SIN) .....c/o Mel Kohl
8010 Otis Ave., Huntington Park 90255
2149 SOCIETY FOR PHILATELICS AND NUMIS. .....862 W. Alamos
Clovis 93612
1265 SOUTHEASTERN SIERRA COIN CLUB .....P.O. Box 202, Bishop 93514
832 SOUTHERN HUB COIN CLUB .....P.O. Box 227, Canoga Park 91305

1173 TRIANGLE COIN CLUB .....c/o Henry Cutting, 3603 LaJara St.
Long Beach 90805
1647 UNIVERSITY NUMISMATIC CLUB .....P.O. Box 2443, Riverside 92506
1582 UPLAND COIN CLUB .....480 W. "A" St., Colton 92324

8-2 VALLEJO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY .....P.O. Box 748, Vallejo 94590
1416 VALLEY COIN CLUB OF LOS ALAMOS .....375 Mooncrest Lane
Santa Maria 93454
317 VENTURA COUNTY COIN CLUB .....P.O. Box 3263, Ventura 93002

1737 WEST COAST NUMIS. ASSOC. .....211 Playa Blvd., La Selva 95076
809 WEST VALLEY COIN CLUB .....P.O. Box 221, Tarzana 91356
1526 WHITTIER COIN CLUB .....P.O. Box 1068, Whittier 90603

Sacramento Convention

APRIL 24-26

By JERRY KROEGER, CSNA 18-4

Statesmen all, Democrats and Republicans alike, were welcome to the capital of our Golden State—Sacramento—for the 46th semi-annual convention, headquartered at the Senator Hotel located in the shadow of the beautiful capitol.

A very nice response was received from Governor Ronald Reagan, thanking "Ace" for the invitation to attend our convention, but regretting that his busy schedule would not permit.

Sacramento Valley Coin Club with **Vince Beretta,** president, hosted this very successful convention. General Chairman **D .L. "Ace" Reiswig** and his tireless assistants **A. G. "Hap" Yeager** and **L. C. "Dude" Cross** were on hand thruout the festivities.

Our thanks to the members of SVCC for the excellent assistance they gave at the registration desk.

Don Raines, bourse chairman, reported about 50 dealers set up "shop." Out of state dealers were from Oregon, Nevada, Washington and Massachusetts. Trading got off to a slow start but picked up momentum later in the session. Blue chips held steady and the over all market was active.

Vince Beretta, exhibit chairman, reported 22 exhibitors, 32 exhibits and 48 exhibit cases. Our editor sent me this note—senior exhibitors take warning! **Jerry Bestpitch,** one of our juniors, a resident of Sacramento, entered three exhibits: won first in the Junior classification, a third in Modern Foreign and a third in Orders and Decorations (the latter two against senior competition). Beware of him in the future. Congratulations to our St. Charles, Missouri, member—**Jerry Bates,** — who forwarded two exhibits to one of our Sacramento members, **Mrs. Viola Thomas,** who set them up for him. He wrote her he wanted to see how he compared with our California exhibitors. He won a second place award in Paper Money and a third in Miscellaneous. So he did make out quite well. Among the exhibits was a copy of the article "The I.M.U. No. 199 Medal", written by "Hap" Yeager as it appeared in the Spring 1970 issue of Calcoin News—and the original medal itself. This medal is (or rather was) owned by**Erich Werling**—who has since donated it to our Californiana Collection.

The Friday night Forum, moderated by **Paul Hamm,** featured talks by **Dick Trowbridge** and **Jim Hill** on "Women on U.S. Commerative Coins" and "Mexican Patriots on its Coins". About 45 "scholars" attended including three juniors. About 40 persons attended the Saturday afternoon California Exonumist quarterly meeting, held in conjunction with our convention. Speakers were **Ralph Mitchell** and **Mrs. Anna Merle Panosh** with the moderator **Joseph Garside.** These Exonumist meetings at our conventions are always open to everyone and the talks are well worth hearing and a good supplement to our Friday night forums.

On Saturday afternoon, when most of the law makers were away, a tour of the State Capitol was enjoyed by approximately 40 persons.

When "Ace" Reiswig takes the chairmanship for a convention he really goes all out—At the Saturday night banquet, we (CSNA) had the hotel practically to ourselves with strolling minstrels and good food for all before the presentation of the awards.

Exhibit awards were presented with "Best of Show" going to **Marvin L. Kennedy** for his exhibit of "In God We Trust".

Literary Awards for the best articles in the 1969 issues of Calcoin News — silver award (first) — **W.deVroom** of Australia, for his article "A Remarkable Dutch Shilling"; bronze award (second)—**H.F. Bowker** (Oakland) for "Notes On East Asian Numismatics". Honorable Mention to: "Paper Money Laundry" by **Forrest W. Daniel;** "San Diego Exonumia" by **Dwight Safford;** and "Brazil's Unique Crowns" by **Peter F. Hamilton.**

"Ace" Reiswig was presented with a specially struck and mounted set of the Sacramento convention medals—

he then presented them to his very able assistant general chairman "Hap" Yeager.

A special 50th Wedding Anniversary placque was presented to **Herb** and **Otta Bergen.** The placque included a replica of a $50 slug and a 1970 proof set. Congratulations!

Congratulations also to the **"Tireless Three" — Mattie** and **Irving Knickerbocker** and **Roy Hill** who extended their record still further by making this their 46th convention of CSNA. Keep coming.

Registration totaled 1,305 for the three days of the convention, with never a dull moment at the desk—A man registered from Essen, Germany and one from South Carolina. A visitor signed his name—Carl Gobrecht. In conversation with him it was found that he is a distant relative of Christian Gobrecht ,designer of the Gobrecht pattern dollar.

We are all looking forward to our next convention in the Southland.

—o—

CONVENTION POT POURRI

Les Lodge and **Eldon** and **Dorothy Beaulieu** closing a dimly-lit bar late Saturday night, after the banquet, discussing items for this column . . . **Les** the next morning trying to decipher his notes . . .

Is it true that **one of our officers** was recently married at 4:00 PM and spent most of his wedding night giving a talk at a local coin club? . . . Two juniors—**Sam** and **Marylou**—interested in each other, while their parents took in the convention activities . . . At the Exonumist meeting, while **Anna Merle Panosh** spoke on orders and decorations—who were the three most interested listeners. Could it have been **Ruby Lee, Irene Liss** and **Mabel Patterson? . . .**

From the San Diego Society's bulletin: "It seems that **Mattie** will have to come to meeting in an 'unadorned' state for a while, as some dirty crook lifted her jewelry from the back of the car. So. get out the butterfly net and see if you can retrieve some of those beautiful pins that got away." Apparently some were retrieved, or new ones found, as **Mattie** had several matching butterflies to go with her usual changes of cloths . . . **Catherine Edgerton** and **Irene Liss** with their identical numismatic dresses . . . Many of the men with their new broad, brightly colored neckties—which seem to be replacing the older, narrow and rather drab ones . . .

The exhibit judges, point score sheets in hand, intently studying the exhibits . . . **Jerry Kroeger,** pen and note book in hand, busy making notes for his write up of the convention . . . The get-to-gether of friends in **Al Barber's** suite after the Friday night forum . . . The friends gathering in the **Franklin Mint** suite, capably handled by the hosts **Ralph and Ruth Mitchell** . . .

Those in attendance at the Exonumist meeting frantically turning over chairs looking for door prizes. **Al Baber** one of the lucky ones; and **Dorothy Beaulieu** letting out a loud scream when she found one . . . **Herb** and **Otta Bergen** tongue-tied at the banquet when presented with a special 50th anniversary award . . . **Ken Lee and Carl Gobrecht** discussing the distant relationship between Carl and Christian . . .

We hear rumors that **Clay Read** is taking a trip to South Africa this fall. Certainly should get a good article from him on this for a coming issue of Calcoin News next year . . . **Jerry Bestpitch** tiring himself out walking back and forth accepting his exhibit awards—three exhibits, three awards . . .

—o—

Cut-Lines

(SEE PICTURES, NEXT PAGE)

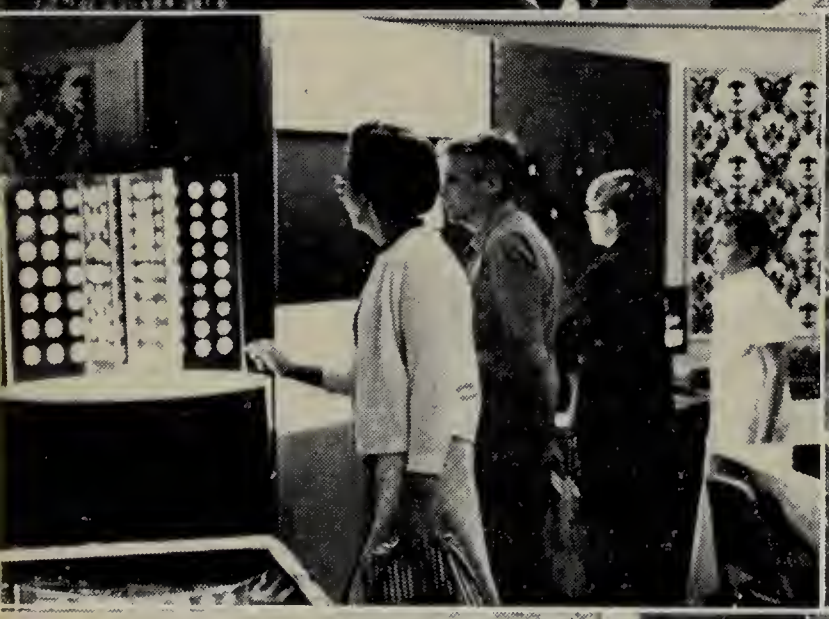
Top Row (left to right)—Hap Yeager, Dude Cross and Ace Reiswig ("Top Brass Management" of the convention). Two Westerners: Howard Jordan of Brighton, Mass. and Frank Roza of Carson City, Nevada. Friday night forum: Jim Hill, Paul Hamm and Dick Trowbridge. "The Tireless Three," Roy Hill, Mattie and Irving Knickerbocker.

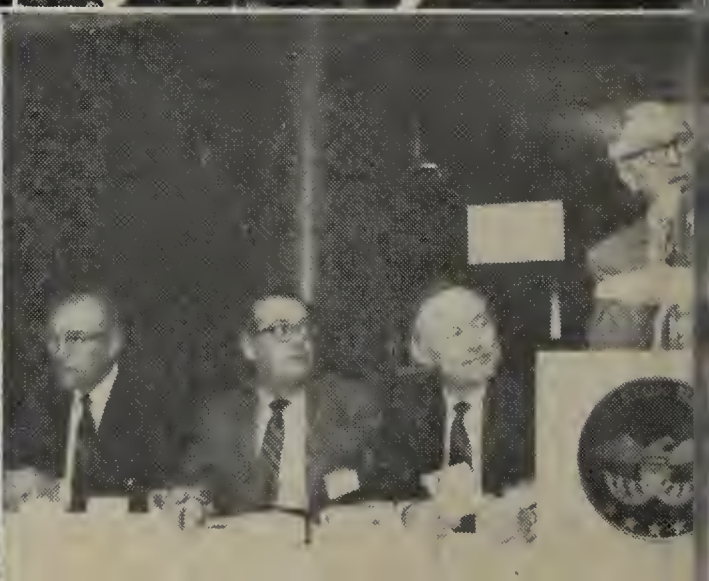
Second Row—A small part of the crowded bourse room. Two young dealers (Mitch and Mike Byers) with two young customers. A TV program being filmed in the bourse room.

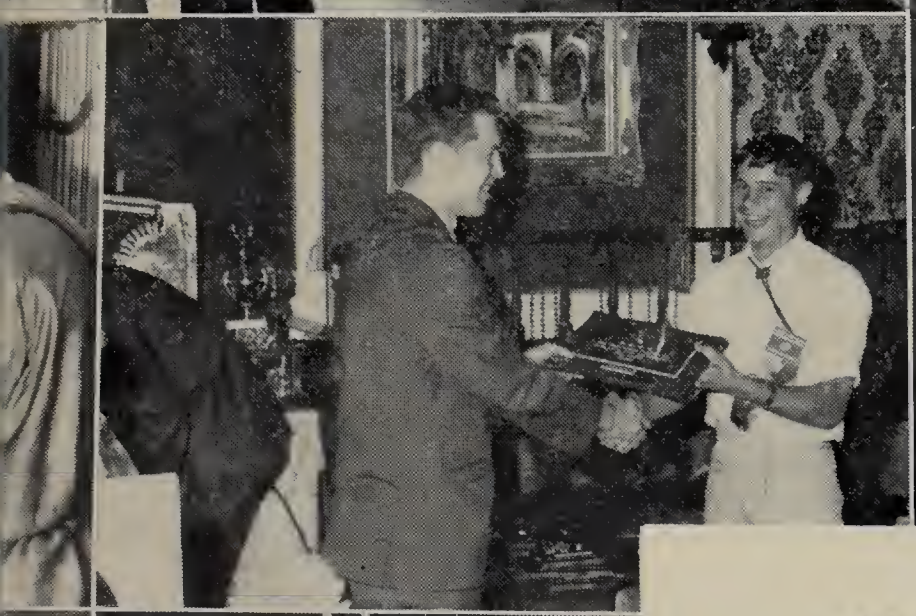
Third Row—Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Rowe and family admire the Franklin Mint exhibit. Pre-banquet entertainment (note Rudy Gjurovich in his money suit). Vince Beretta presenting Jerry Bestpitch with one of his three exhibit awards. John Sears and Vince Beretta presenting Best-of-Show award to Marvin Kennedy (center).

Fourth Row—A happy group of exhibit award winners. At the banquet head table (left to right) Bill Wisslead, Everett Phillips, Al Baber and Hap Yeager. Fred Green of Iola, Wisc., and your editor Les Lodge.

GENERAL
CHAIRMAN







46th Semi-Annual Convention

SACRAMENTO

APRIL 24-26, 1970

Photography by
JOSEPH COHEN

Exhibits and Awards

GROUP "A" — UNITED STATES

Marvin L. Kennedy (Marysville) — "In God We Trust" — **First Award** and **BEST OF SHOW.**
Rapha W. Brown (Livermore) — Peace Dollars — **Second Award**
Angelo R. Turrini (San Rafael) — S.F. Mint Regular Gold — **Third Award;** and S.F. Mint Commemorative Half Dollars.
Frank LaBella (Sacramento) — 1970-S Penny.

GROUP "C" — MEDIEVAL

A. A. Shimonauff (Fair Oaks) — Silver Coins of the English Tudors — **First Award**

GROUP "D" — MODERN FOREIGN

William E. Horing (Stockton) — Canada's Silver Dollars — **First Award**
A. A. Shimonauff (Fair Oaks) — The British Two Pence Cartwheel — **Second Award**
Jerry Bestpitch (Sacramento) — Commemorative Coins of Finland — **Third Award**
Rapha W. Brown (Livermore) — The New Africa

GROUP "E" — SUBSTITUTES FOR MONEY

Joy Parrish (Lawndale) — Wooden Money of America — **Second Award**

GROUP "F" — PAPER MONEY

Jerry Bates (St. Charles, Missouri) — The Forgotten U.S. Currency — **Second Award**

GROUP "G" — ORDERS AND DECORATIONS

Jerry Bestpitch (Sacramento) — The Indian Wars — **Third Award**
Clifford H. Bloom (San Francisco) — Emperor Franz Joseph's Own Order

GROUP "H" — MEDALS

Fred W. Speers (Escondido) — How German Medals Tell History of Her Dirigibles and Zeppelins — **First Award**
Harold Centman (San Diego) — Indian Medals
Philip Centman (San Diego) — First Day Issue Medals

GROUP "I" — MISCELLANEOUS

Roy Hill (San Francisco) — S.F. Mint Building, 1869-1937 — **Second Award;** and New Philadelphia Mint, 1969.
Jerry Bates (St. Charles, Missouri) — OPA Ration Tokens — **Third Award**
Philip Centman (San Diego) — Coins Heralds of a Great Nation
R. Paul Endler (Clovis) — PNC Philatelic Numismatic Combinations

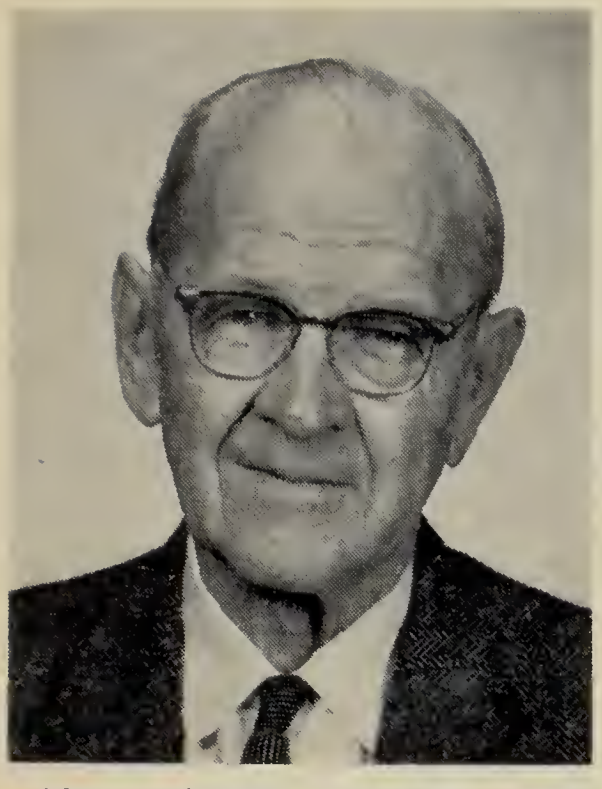
GROUP "J" — JUNIORS

Jerry Bestpitch (Sacramento) — Last of the Buffalo — **First Award**
Chuck Bronson (Redding) — Mercury Dimes — **Second Award**
Rodney Friedle (Sunnyvale) — The Barber Coins — **Third Award;** and Two-Cent Pieces
Sam E. Phillips (Fresno) — Coins of the Original United Nations

NON-COMPETITIVE

Clay Read (Sun Valley) — CSNA Convention Medallions
Vincent Beretta (Sacramento) — Collecting Sacramento
Ralph A. Mitchell (Fullerton) — Franklin Mint Medals
Treasury Department — U.S. Treasury Exhibit
"Hap" Yeager — The I.M.U. No 199 Medal

BEST OF SHOW — MARVIN L. KENNEDY (Group "A")
SPECIAL EXONUMIST AWARD — FRED W. SPEERS (Group "H")
ABE KOSOFF SPECIAL AWARD — To Each Junior Exhibitor Listed in Group "J"
EXHIBIT CHAIRMAN — VINCENT BERETTA
EXHIBIT AWARDS — JOHN SEARS
EXHIBIT AWARD JUDGES — JOHN D. SEARS, MRS. SLYVIA HAFFNER, DENNIS OLSWANG



Who's Who In California Numismatics

JOHN FIES

By

LES LODGE

The numismatic activities of **John Fies,** CSNA life member no. 15-6, began in Marion, Ohio, about 1909, when he was just a young boy and when everybody was excited about the new Lincoln penny and the peculiar "VDB" initials appearing on some of them.

At that time, John put aside some of those Lincolns, and for good measure some Indian Heads. Coins from grandfather's tobacco box were added when it appeared certain such would not be spent for licorice-sticks, red-hots or jaw-breakers. Later some large U.S. cents were purchased from a peddler at the County Fair, probably at a good seller's price (but at what a bargain today!)

Coin collecting did not receive early emphasis however, because father saved stamps. Further the many other activities of youth overshadowed the collecting instincts. For about 25 years there was the Boy Scouts, as Scout, Scoutmaster, Committeeman, Commissioner and a stint as Chairman of a District Advancement Committee. There was school, summer work, college and starting a family. Who needed a television set in those days?

As for the family, it consists of Mrs. John Fies (Gladys Louise Bowman of Texas) who is a talented watercolorist, sons Bill and Bob who are scientifically inclined, daughter-in-law Diane who collects St. Bernard dogs (just try that sometime), and four fine and active grandchildren.

During the economic depression of the mid 1930s there was some spare time, thus stamps and coins were set aside. During the 1940s there were three and one-half years of military service as a commissioned officer, first in the headquarters of the Chief Signal Officer and later in the headquarters of the Air Force, with no time for stamps or coins. Present status is Major, USAF, Retired.

Because of a great flood of issues of stamps, the collecting of foreign stamps was dropped after the War, and attention was given to mint condition U.S. stamps. However, as issues of these grew in volume, stamp collecting terminated.

About 1952, daughter-in-law Diane declared an intention of starting a coin collection for the new grandson, William. Thereupon John dug up his old coin box from its lodging place; penny, nickel and dime coin folders were purchased (one set for grandson and one set for granddad) and the collecting of U.S. coins by denomination, date and mint-mark got into full motion. Later U.S. type sets were added, and grandad ventured also into larger denominations.

About that time an item of Continental Currency of November 1775 was seen in a coin dealer's window. Acquiring same, these words were found printed upon its face: "THIS Bill entitles the Bearer to receive Four Spanish milled Dollars, or the

Value thereof in Gold or Silver, ..." Needless to say, a Spanish pillar dollar was soon acquired. In time there followed the acquisition of other coins of Spain's "New World"; then coins of Spain—the mother country—and a few of the Empire. A numismatic library was becoming a necessity, and was started.

The next incident with impact, was the purchase of an 1886 second-hand book: "The Story of Spain" by Edward Everett Hale and Susan Hale. In that book were these words: "The reader will remember that Gibraltar and Ceuta were the two pillars of Hercules. The symbols of these pillars still survive in the arms of Spain, on the Spanish coins, ——." This discovery was followed by John's observation of numerous conflicting statements about those Pillars of Hercules and motto "PLUS ULTRA," as such applied to the coins of Spain. A desire to sift out the facts and learn the truth about the origin of that device and motto, which has been on the coins of Spain for more than 450 years, stirred much numismatic interests. There followed for John about ten years of research, a necessary study of Spanish and French and eventually a visit to Malines, the town in Belgium where said device and motto was born.

It then became obvious to our student that the Burgundian "Order Of The Golden Fleece," as inherited by the Habsburgs, had been a major catalyst for the invention of said "PILLARS — PLUS ULTRA." Further, the Collar of that great Order appears on some coins of Spain and its "New World". Research of that Order, from its birth to its influence on the devices on coins of Spain, is now in progress as we arrive at the present state of John's numismatic affairs.

Among John's numismatic affiliations besides CSNA are: he was one of the founders and is CM no. 3 of the Organization of International Numismatists; a member of the American Numismatic Association; associate member of the American Numismatic Society; member no. 12 and past president (1960-61 and 1961-62) of the Peninsula Coin Club (Palo Alto); member C-60 of TheAzteca Numismatic Society; member of the Pacific Coast Numismatic Society; and of the Numismatic Association of Southern California.

Some of John's competitive exhibits have been: "Examples of Numismatic Blazonry—Spain Under The Christian Kings"; "The Vigo Pieces of Queen Anna" (as minted by Sir Isaac Newton from captured Spanish silver); "The Pillars of Hercules of Spain"; and "One Thread of The Numismatic Fabric of Mexico." He has won his share of awards.

His numismatic writings include: A challenger of a claimed origin of our dollars ($) sign in "Origin Of The Dollar Sign Controversial" in Coin World, March 15, 1963; "National Motto Passes One Hundredth Birthday" in Coin World, May 20, 1964; "The Castles and Lions On Cross" in two parts in Azteca's Plus Ultra, July 23 and Aug. 27, 1965; "Coins of Aegina" in Calcoin News, Spring 1967; "Pillars of Hercules and Plus Ultra of Spain" likewise in Calcoin News, Winter 1968; and "What About 'Non Plus Ultra'?" in Azteca's Plus Ultra of February 1968.

For anyone interested in the non-numismatic details of his life prior to 1948, see "Who's Who In Engineering," 1948 edition. From 1948 to age 65 retirement, John served the National Forest Products Association as Regional Manager for Technical Service; and from 1966 to date he has had his own business as Consulting Engineer for Fire, Building and Housing Code Problems.

One can readily see that despite John's age, he keeps active in many ways. Keep up your research and writing and exhibiting, John.

—o—

BRITISH CROWNS

"Crowns of the British Empire" by Richard J. Trowbridge, P.O. Box 14542, Long Beach, Calif. 90814, has been released.

This 164-page book contains information ranging from the silver crown of Edward VI, 1551, to the copper-nickel Churchill crown of 1965. Numismatic details pertaining to the reign of each ruler are given, with mintage figures (if known), mint marks, translation of Latin legends, edge design and lettering, designers of the coins, and prices in three conditions. 373 separate crowns are listed.

Price $3.75. If not available at your local dealer or book shop, it may be ordered direct from the author.

From the Desk of the Secretary

NEW MEMBERS

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2219 PACIFIC BEACH COIN CLUB
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RE-INSTATEMENTS

1314 JAMES, Elghus .....Rt. 2, Box 187, Delano, Calif. 93215

CHANGE OF NAME

720 GOODSON, Elizabeth L. to WISSLEAD, Elizabeth L.
1173 COMPTON COIN CLUB to TRIANGLE COIN CLUB
2071 MENKES, Fred F. to SUTHERLAND, Robert B.

ADDRESS UNKNOWN

1613 YANKEY, Bowden
1781 SAN JOSE MINT (James W. Kudenov)

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership, Feb. 15, 1970	1073
New Members, Feb. 16 to May 15, 1970	30
Re-Instatements	1
Resignations	11
Address Unknown	2
New Membership, May 15, 1970	1091
Total Life Members	119
1970 Dues Not Yet Paid	254

—CHARLES G. COLVER

—0—

From the Desk of the Librarian

Our heartiest thanks go to these friends and members who continue to support the library with their generous contributions: **Maurice Gould, Peggy Borgolte, Richard Trowbridge, Robert Harris, H. F. Bowker, Jack Nestle** and **Ralph Mitchell.**

Please add the following titles to your library list:

A-35 Atwood's Catalogue of U.S. and Canadian Transportation Tokens, Third Edition.
B-63 Betts, Benjamin. Mexican Imperial Coinage.
F-25 Franklin Mint. Numismatic Issues of the Franklin Mint, 1969 Edition.
H-25 Harris, Robert P. Pillars & Portraits, Second Edition.
H-26 Hanley, Tom and James, Bill. Collecting Australian Coins.
H-27 Hunter, John. Price Catalog of Pure Nickel Coins of the World.
K-34 Kellersberger, Julia Lake. Congo Crosses.
M-65 Mehl, B. Max. Star Coin Book, 1910.
M-66 Moravian Numismatic Reports.
R-45 Ramsay, Robert M. A Tentative Checklist of Spanish-American Bust-Type Silver.
S-69 Seppa, Dale Allan L. The Coins of Ecuador, 1833-1969.
T-12 Trowbridge, Richard J. Maundy Coins of Great Britain.
T-13 Trowbridge, Richard J. Coinage of the Palestine Mandate.
T-14 Trowbridge, Richard J. Crowns of the British Empire.

—DOROTHY E. BEAULIEU

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HISTORIAN'S REPORT

Our sincere thanks go to **Catharine Edgerton** for her efforts in preparing the very fine Assistant Historian's scrapbook covering our 1969 San Diego convention. A much deserved note of thanks also to **Joy Parrish** for her comprehensive book covering our 1968 Los Angeles convention.

Both these interesting books are a worthy addition to the Historian's files.

L. Eldon Beaulieu

VICTOR D. BRENNER and THE LINCOLN CENT

By ALBERT K. HALL, Colton, CSNA 1719

Numismatically speaking, when you think of Victor D. Brenner you automatically think of the Lincoln Cent. And, vice-versa. This little man, who was born in Shaveli, Russia, in 1871, came to the United States when he was 19 years old. Fresh from his apprenticeship in jewelry engraving, he enrolled in art schools and then furthered his studies with famous sculptors. He studied at the Cooper Union at night. (This paralleled the identical course followed in an earlier generation of the cameo cutter, Saint Gaudins.)

A professor of the City College chanced to see a Beethoven badge Brenner had made and brought him to the attention of the American Numismatic Society. He went to Paris in 1898, and later exhibited his work in Paris, London and Berlin. He was considered as one of the foremost sculptor medalists of his time and was awarded many medals.

The centennial of Lincoln's birth was approaching and designs were being submitted for a commemorative coin. A commemorative postage stamp was to be issued in 1909 honoring the Great Emancipator, and coin collectors favored a similar coin which would see general circulation instead of limited coinage. While Brenner was receiving a sitting from President Theodore Roosevelt, whose portrait is on the reverse side of a Panama Canal medal, he showed the president a Lincoln plaque of his design. President Roosevelt was so greatly impressed by the design Brenner had made that he recommended him to the Secretary of the Treasury McVeagh, and suggested that the design be used on a popular coin. Brenner was soon commissioned to model a cent with the head of Lincoln. Thus the 1909 cent became the first regular issue to bear a recognized portrait. (A Lincoln coin had been proposed back in 1886, a few 5¢ pieces were struck in nickel, and then the project was dropped.)

President Taft, who succeeded Roosevelt, was responsible for the inclusion of the motto "In God We Trust". Roosevelt had a strong dislike for religious mottos on coins.

The model of the Lincoln cent bore the designer's name BRENNER on the reverse. When the dies were cut the name was changed to the initials VDB.

More than 25,000,000 of the new cents were produced at the Philadelphia mint before any were released to the public. The coins were finally sent out in August of 1909. In those days you could get coins at the mint in most any amount—however, in this case, due to the great demand for the new cent they allowed only two to a customer and a limit of 100 at the sub-treasury. Newsboys and others sold them at 2 for 5¢ during the first few days of circulation.

Favorable comment appeared in the first days papers, especially for the obverse. Criticism developed shortly and everything possible was said to denounce the coin due to the presence of the designer's initials. It was said they were too large to be in good taste. The Secretary of the Treasury immediately ordered a stop to the coinage.

The San Francisco mint had struck only 484,000 when the work stoppage was ordered. This created one of the most popular issues of modern coins, the scarce and widely publicized 1909-S VDB about which we have all heard a great deal.

Because the demand was so great for this small cent, the initials were removed and the mints resumed work within a few days.

The old saying "You can't please everybody" certainly rang true—now protests were being made by numismatists regarding the removal of the initials. A mark of identification was considered by them to be an artist's just reward. The injustice was finally recognized in 1918 and the initials were restored at the lower part of Lincoln's shoulder where we still see them today.

Following is, in part, a letter written by Victor D. Brenner to Mr. Farran Zerbe of "The Numismatist":

New York
August 23, 1909

My Dear Mr. Zerbe:

It is mighty hard for me to express my sentiments with reference to the initials on the cent. The name of the artist on a coin is essential for the student of history as it enables him to trace environments and conditions of the time said coin was produced. Much fume has been made about my initials as a means of advertisement; such is not the case. The very talk the initials has brought out has done more good for numismatics than it could do me personally.

The cent not alone represents in part my art, but it represents the type of art of our period.

The conventionalizing of the sheafs of wheat was done by me with much thought, and I feel that with the prescribed wording no better design could be obtained. The cent will wear out two of the last ones in time, due entirely to the hollow surface.

The original design had BRENNER on it, and that was changed to the initials. Of course the issue rests with the numismatic bodies . . . .

Very sincerely yours,

(signed)
VICTOR D. BRENNER

(Brenner died at the age of 53 in April, 1925.)

—o—

BOOK RELEASES . . .

Krause Publications, Book Division, Iola, Wisc. 54945, has just released two excellent publications.

"Military Tokens of the United States, 1866-1969" by James J. Curto. This 304-page volume, with more than 1,200 photos, lists all known military tokens of arsenals, barracks, camps, forts, etc., and includes those recently released for use in Viet-Nam.

"World War II Prisoner of War Scrip of the United States" by Albert I. Donn. This book of 112 pages includes more than 100 illustrations, and lists the monies issued for use in accordance with the Geneva Treaty agreements requiring captors to provide their prisoners with monetary needs for health and comfort.

Curto's book is priced at $12.50; and Donn's at $6.50; or both for $17.50. Books should be ordered direct from Krause Publications.

—o—

The Roman naturalist Pliny the Elder believed earthquakes were protests from Mother Earth against wicked miners who stole her gold and silver.

* * * * *

Communion tokens have been issued by churches in Scotland, England, Ireland, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and the United States.

CALCOIN NEWS

Quarterly Magazine of the
California State Numismatic Association

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CSNA members receive Calcoin News without additional cost beyond their annual dues of $5.

Life membership available at $100.

Please send any address change promptly to the secretary.

Vol. 24 Summer, 1970 No. 3

For Sale - -

Back Issues of Calcoin News

Our historian has on hand a quantity of back issues of **Calcoin News** and its predecessor the **CSNA Bulletin.** These are now being offered for sale to our members and friends at a very attractive price.

Vol.	No.	Date	Set-up	Quantity
1	1	June 1947	3-page mimeographed single sheets	— (1)
1	2	Sep. 1947	2-page mimeographed single sheets	— (1)
1	3	Dec. 1947	12-page mimeographed booklet	23
2	1	Jan. 1948	12-page mimeographed booklet	17
2	2	June 1948	12-page mimeographed booklet	18
2	3	Aug. 1948	8-page mimeographed booklet	18
3	1	Jan. 1949	24-page printed booklet	— (2)
3	2	Mar. 1949	12-page mimeographed booklet	— (2)
3	3	June 1949	14-page mimeographed booklet	— (2)
3	4	Oct. 1949	12-page mimeographed booklet	— (2)
4	1	Jan. 1950	24-page printed booklet	3
4	2	Mar. 1950	12-page printed booklet	1
4	3	May 1950	16-page printed booklet	2
4	4	July 1950	12-page printed booklet	5
4	5	Oct. 1950	16-page printed booklet	— (2)
5	1	Jan. 1951	28-page printed booklet	— (2)
5	2	Mar. 1951	16-page printed booklet	4
5	3	May 1951	20-page printed booklet	7
5	4	July 1951	16-page printed booklet	6
5	5	Sep. 1951	16-page printed booklet	2
5	6	Nov. 1951	16-page printed booklet	— (2)

Volume no. 1, number 1 and 2, marked (1) while shown as being exhausted, can be Zeroxed from a copy in our library, and offered at 50c each

Other issues with supply shown as exhausted can be Zeroxed, although it is a rather complicated process and our historian is having quotations given him on the cost of this. Price to prospective purchasers on request.

All other issues are being offered at 75c each; with a 10% discount on orders totaling $5 or more.

Persons desiring any of the above back issues should write to our historian, L. Eldon Beaulieu, 3143 Neal Ave., San Jose, Calif. 95117. Checks in payment should be made out to L. Eldon Beaulieu, CSNA Historian.

A future issue of Calcoin News will include further listings of back issues available.

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Daffy Definitions

The editor of the **San Diego Numismatic Society's Bulletin** (April, 1970) writes: "So, in the second set of bound copies of the SDNS Bulletins, I came up with the following list of Daffy Definitions pertaining to numismatics, and since I was amused by them, I'm passing them on to current-day readers:

AU (almost uncirculated) — a coin you almost had to spend, but succeeded in hanging on to.

AUCTION — an arrangement for spending money that you can spend for money that you can't spend.

AUCTIONEER — a silvery-tounged orator who persuaded you to reduce your diet in order to spend more money for coins.

CATALOG — a list of coins you can't afford to buy.

CLIPPED MONEY — money you lose in a clip joint.

CONDITION — an impossible word to define numismatically, as no one agrees on what condition is — see "fine" and "good".

CURRENCY — money in general. So-called because it flows away from you like the current of the Niagara River.

EXHIBIT — a method by which coin collectors try to make other collectors envious of their property.

FINE — (very fine; extraordinary fine) — applied to any worn coin whose design and inscription is more or less clear.

GOOD — a term applied to any worn and battered coin if slight traces of design and inscription remain.

MEDAL (Military) — a decoration you get by spending several years being shot at, and then discover you could buy one for a few dollars anyway.

NUMISMATICS — a hobby you go goofy about in order to forget your troubles that otherwise might drive you goofy.

RARITY — a coin you want to buy . . . see "common coins".

COMMON COIN — any coin you try to sell . . . see "rarity".

Further remarks by the editor of the SDNS Bulletin: "The above dafinitions can be credited to **Tom Ward,** and since I do give all credit to Tom there should be no grounds for plagiarism. Though these were printed twenty years ago, things really do not change much. Right?

———0———

From the Desk of the Treasurer

FEBRUARY 1, 1970 — APRIL 17, 1970

Balance Brought Forward (Commercial Account)			$ 2,827.25
Receipts:			
Membership Dues		$ 598.00	
"Money Talks"		35.00	
Medallions		17.00	650.00
Total Receipts			**$ 3,477.25**
Disbursements:			
Storage (Bekins)		35.10	
Miscellaneous Postage and Printing		40.62	
Envelopes		212.63	
Half Dollars (Convention Registration Desk)		400.00	
Dolores Press (Calcoin News)		511.53	
Editors' Expenses		213.40	
Convention Ribbons (46th)		227.96	
Miscellaneous		9.49	
Symposium:			
Miscellaneous	$ 11.29		
Medals	93.02		
Programs	55.45		
Long Beach School District	45.00		
Moderator's Expenses	85.26		
Photos	28.50	318.52	1,869.25
Balance on Hand (Commercial Account)			**1,508.00**
Savings Account (April 1, 1970)			**6,124.58**
Kennedy Half-Dollars on Hand			**630.00**
Total			**$ 8,262.58**

—WILLIAM G. WISSLEAD

Gold Through the Ages

By FRANK STRAUSS, Monrovia, CSNA 1546

"Over woman, gold has greater power than ten thousand arguments", said Euripides. Along with his religion and love of family, man's quest for gold and his use of it as money have been prime forces in civilization. It has been the lure that led men to discovery and to conquest. Throughout history gold has been a fruitful cause of war.

Lust for gold, and the power it yields, recast Old World geography in the plundering raids of Alexander the great. It brought changes to Europe's maps in the Punic Wars, and the campaigns of Marius, Pompey, Paulus Aemilius and Julius Caesar.

Leaping the Atlantic in the wake of Columbus, it was again the gold fever which led the conquering hordes on those long explorations which not only wrecked and robbed the Aztec and Inca empires, and slew and enslaved whole tribes of Indians, but laid the first lines of what is now the map of the Western Hemisphere.

Yet a third geographic chapter in man's world-wide gold quest dawned when the trail wove back and forth across the Pacific, from California to Australia and back to Alaska, then off to South Africa. Always on the cultural map the gold-seeker left his mark. Consider California. The Forty-Niners rushed to the rich placers, started the western migration which was to build railways and new cities, found industries, and cover the West with farms, sawmills and schoolhouses. Gold strikes, in the same way, swelled the human tide in Australia and hastened its settlement and growth.

When gold mines of fabulous wealth opened in South Africa, they put the Dark Continent in the world's eye, and led indirectly to the Boer War. Cripple Creek, the Klondike, and northern Ontario, now the greatest gold area in the Western World, have all had their profound effects on human progress.

When gold was used merely as personal adornment, in plate, or in the decorative arts, it swayed the destiny only of those who possessed it, as in Peru and Mexico, or when Rome paid chariot loads of it to the barbarians to save herself from being sacked. But when gold came into wide use as money, to measure wages, prices and the cost of living in all nations, then it began to influence the whole world. Tariffs, the gold standard, foreign exchange, and debts — gold brings them all into the picture of international relations.

Since the Bronze Age, gold has been man's favorite ornament. Gold-washing is shown on Egyptian monuments carved in 2900 B.C. From an adventure to seize the gold that Armenians washed from streams with the aid of sheepskins, originated the legend of the Golden Fleece. King Tutankhamen's tomb in Egypt, Ur of the Chaldeas, and other ruins in Bible lands have yielded many golden objects of antiquity.

From Ireland, Scandinavia and France have come ancient gold collars, gold handled swords, vessels, beakers, bangles, pins, rings and earrings, showing how extensively gold was used in the arts before it circulated widely as money.

When Pizarro conquered the Incas of Peru he found their goldsmiths making pitchers, plates, jewelry and minature figures of llamas, frogs, lizards and beetles. Such objects comprised the "roomful of gold" which Atahualpa, captive Inca chieftain, offered Pizarro for his freedom.

Europe's gold, when Columbus first sailed westward, amounted to less than some present day fortunes. Part of this Europe had mined, part had been plundered from other lands. Cadmus, a Phoenician, opened a gold mine in Thrace about 1495 B.C., and "carried thither the alphabet and other germs of civilization". Jason, on his piratical gold quest to Argus in 1263 B.C. ,gave the name of Argonauts to gold seekers. Croesus gained wealth from ancient placer mines of Smyrna; so did Midas of the legendary gold touch, who turned his daughter into gold.

Darius of Persia looted Asia Minor, Greece and Egypt, and levied gold and silver tribute. Part of this Alexander retrieved when he in turn plundered

Babylon and other lands of enormous sums. Holes dug by Harun-al-Rashid, when he worked the gold veins in what is now Hejas, may still be seen. Diodorus tells in dramatic detail how naked slaves, with candles tied on top of their heads, worked the hot tunnels of Egyptain gold mines in the cruel days of the Pharaohs. Carthage not only enslaved people in what is now Spain, but also brought hordes of African slaves to help work these mines .This horrible traffic so augmented the flow of metal as to influence the whole commerce of the world. From the Imperial Roman era to Columbus, Europe's limited gold production forced nations to war and pillage. Some of her gold, so gained, was syphoned off in trade to India and the Orient.

India in time became the world's greatest hoarder; "the treasure sink of the world" she was called. Just how much gold is still hidden in the secret vaults of her nobility nobody knows. From 1873 to 1930, however, the records show that India imported about $2,800,000,000 in gold.

Few books record the fact, yet Japan in the 17th century supplied Europe with an important stock of gold. The Portuguese and the Dutch managed this, beginning generations before Commodore Perry opened Japanese ports to world trade. Fernao Pinto, a pirate from Portuguese colony of Ningpo, China, was driven upon the Japanese coast during a storm in 1545. When he returned to Ningpo with tales of much gold in Japan, other Portuguese fitted out ships and began trading.

Though Japan then coined no gold as money, her people amassed it as wealth and traded it freely for weapons, drugs and dress stuffs brought by the Portuguese and later by the Dutch. When the stock began to wane, the Portuguese hatched a plot to overthrow the Shogun, and to work the mines with the enslaved natives. This plot finally led to their expulsion. The Portuguese, however, had actually contrived to have the mines worked, and thus secured treasure which was shipped to Europe. The part of the Dutch in this was small, though from 1624 to 1853 they were the only Europeans permitted to trade with the Japanese, under the most humiliating terms. Their trading posts were limited to a small island near Nagasaki.

From the year 1680 to the year 1803 it is estimated that Brazilian gold mines produced more than $800,000,000. From 1803 until California and Australia came to yield rich treasure, some fifty years later, Brazil continued to produce enormously. Her gold stream was so rich that in time it affected Europe's level of wages and prices. Yet, to slaves and even free whites, life in the jungle gold fields was Hell on earth. The miners' only food was a few deer and wild fruit. At the mines it took a pound of gold to buy a bushel of corn. Once this price was paid for a pound of salt. A herd of cattle which some enterprising natives drove to the mines of Goyas and Mato Grasso sold, flesh and bone together, for an ounce and a half of gold, or about $30 per pound. Starvation and leprosy took a heavy toll of life.

But Brazil's fabulous gold stream was to make economic history. The world's stock of gold was then still comparatively small. Taxes on this gold brought Portugal, which then owned Brazil, a fat revenue and gave rise to another measure which was profoundly to affect the world's monetary arrangements. Portugal in 1688 changed the ratio of silver to gold in her dominions to 16 to 1. Later she coined enough gold to effect a similar change in the coining laws of other trading nations. In 1747 Portugal entirely demonitized silver and set up a single gold standard. Then England and other nations adopted it.

Miners found gold both in veins and placers. In vein mining of gold ore and quartz methods are similar to those used in extracting other minerals from rocks. A good example of "modern" quest for gold in rock is the Rand. Since it was discovered in 1885, some of its mines have ceased operation; others have been opened. Some have reached a great depth. By 1930 a maximum depth of 7,640 feet had been reached. But at such depths the problem of hoisting and the increasing heat from the rocks, as well as the rock pressure, makes the work more and more difficult. Engineers state that the temperature in the Rand mines rises at the rate of one degree Fahrenheit for every 254 feet of vertical depth.

Here excitement attaches to placer mining. By it the miner simply washes bright bits of gold from sand

and gravel. He can see at a glance, in his pan or sluice box how much gold his labors yield. Since the world depression, thousands of men and women have worked along streams in our Western States panning for dust and nuggets. It was bean-like nuggets, found in a stream where James Marshall was digging a mill-race, that started the gold rush in '49 to California. There, as in the early days of the Australian excitement, when rich alluvial deposits were common at the surface, most gold was first found by washing. The search for veins of ore and the use of stamp mills and other machines came later.

Bits of gold in a creek bed were the clue to the Klondike. Weary from chasing a moose, an Indian hunter lay down to drink from a Yukon tributary and saw the stream bed glittering. Thus "Skockum Jim" with two white men, Carmack and Henderson, started the historic Klondike gold rush. Later on the beaches it was found the very ocean sands were impregnated with gold, and undreamed of millions were recovered.

Nothing stirs man's imagination more than tales of huge nuggets. Small ones have appeared in the craws of chickens and turkeys; children at play have found others. A fourteen - year - old California boy, named Perkins, playing with a toy water wheel in a Calaveras County creek, picked up a nugget worth $1,800. Near Dutch Flat, in California, an old miner, Dan Hill, bent to wash his hands in a brook and saw in the water a chunk of gold as big as his head. He got $12,300 for it.

North Carolina does not come to mind first as a gold state. Yet records in the United States mint show that it mined gold as early as 1793. From its old Reed mine in Cabarrus County, came a veritable stream of nuggets that ranged from bean size up to gold chunks of 28 pounds. A Montgomery County mine belonged to Thomas Fanney, a deer hunter, whose favorite pastime was "to go hunting with bullets of pure gold". Old residents thereabouts told of a buck killed long after Fanney's death, with a golden bullet still embedded in its shoulder. It was assumed this was one of Fanney's bullets with which he had wounded the deer some time back while hunting.

A seven pound nugget found in South Africa was shaped like a human hand, fingers and all. Near Dolores, Mexico, an Indian found a nugget which was a perfect corn husk in shape. The Ural Mountains in Russia have yielded nuggets up to fifty pounds or more. Three convicts found one worth $30,000. It is said the Czar freed the convicts, but kept the gold.

A strange story is one about the "Oliver Martin", the largest nugget found in California. Two men, Martin and Fowler, were asleep one night in a canyon when a mountain storm sent a sudden flood of water rushing down on them. Fowler was drowned. Next morning Oliver Martin took his pick and shovel and started to bury his dead friend. Hardly had he begun the grave when he struck a nugget. It sold for $22,700, after Martin had first earned $10,000 by exhibiting it.

The list is long and exciting. No part of the world has been so prolific as the Victoria fields of Australia. From there have come really big nuggets by the score. The famous Ballarat nugget, the "Welcome", brought $52,500. In New South Wales was found a record nugget, measuring four feet nine inches long, which sold for $148,000.

Pagan dentists of Etruscan days used gold on teeth, as museum exhibits indicate. In Rome, about 450 BC., it was forbidden by law to bury gold in any form with the dead (probably because of a gold shortage), except "the gold with which the teeth may perchance be bound together".

With few banks and no safety deposit doxes, middle-class natives of Iraq, India and Persia usually hoard their wealth in gold coins or jewelry. In these and other eastern lands the rich often keep much of their wealth in coins and gold plates. Many women of Bagdad jingle like sleigh bells when they walk, for on their waists and ankles they wear all their life's savings, gold worth two or three hundred dollars. When they need cash to bury a relative, or to buy their daughter a wedding outfit, they pawn or sell their golden baubles.

The world has been more thoroughly prospected for gold than for any other metal. It may be vain, then, to hope for another series of gold finds as rich as Cripple Creek, the Lena, the Rand or the Klondike.

Yet from year to year gold strikes of varying importance are constantly recorded. We read of new gold finds in Canada, Australia and elsewhere; and there was news some years back, not too long ago, from Johannesburg about a sub-outcrop of the main reef of the vast Witwatersrand gold fields that is now believed to extend another forty miles or more.

Exciting tales of rich strikes, of dazzling fortunes exposed by one lucky stroke of the pick, the spirit of adventure and romance that clings to the gold hunters career, leave man tireless in his never ending search.

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ATTENTION - - ALL VECTURISTS

The third edition of **"Atwood's Catalogue of United States and Canada Transportation Tokens"** was released last April, and is far more than just a check list of all known bus line, street railway and ferry boat tokens. According to its editor, John M. Coffee Jr., the third edition is a total encyclopedia on transportation tokens and the firms which issued them. The book contains more than 700 pages, of which about 110 are photos of the tokens, horse cars, cable cars, old bridges, etc.

This book is bound in gold-stamped heavy red buckram. A printing of 3000 copies was ordered. It retails for $10, and your order and check should be sent to John M. Coffee Jr., P.O. Box 1204, Boston, Mass. 02104. Order your copy now.

By the way, do our readers know that this Association's name is derived from the Latin word "vectura" —meaning "passage money"?

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Let The Buyer Beware

By MABEL NEWCOMER, Saratoga

I think I have no illusions about "the good old days" when life was simpler (and the work week twice as long). But some improvements have brought new problems that we were spared earlier. The shorter work week is fine, but too much "leisure time" is wasted in traffic jams going to and from work. The greater variety of food products is good, but it has been accompanied by needless problems of price comparison. The new fair packaging act will help to solve the latter problem. And I suggest another simple way of making progress toward this goal — namely, to drop pennies from our list of coins.

When I was growing up in California pennies were rarely used. We could buy "all-day-suckers" for 1¢, but everything in the grocery store, as far as I can recall, was priced in multiples of 5¢. More expensive items, such as clothing and furniture, were priced in even dollars. This was the era of the Ingersoll watch that, according to the ads "made the dollar famous". When the standard 5¢ loaf of bread was made impossible by skyrocketing wheat prices during World War I it did not rise to 6¢ or 7¢. The size was reduced until it became inconveniently small, at which time we were offered a double loaf for 10¢. Banks did not keep accounts in pennies. If I presented a check for $5.22, say, I received $5.20. For $5.23 I received $5.25. It all cancelled out in the end.

Today few prices are in even dollars or multiples of 5¢. I checked advertisements in a local paper to confirm this impression. Out of 54 items below $1, there were only seven in multiples of 5¢ and none in multiples of 10¢. The only even dollar prices were of the "six for a dollar" variety, and this doesn't simplify price comparisons. It is no bargain if the regular price is 16¢ apiece. The most frequent figure for prices between $1

and $10 ended in 99¢. Only after the $100 mark did even dollar prices prevail. These tended to be $388 or $499, although cents were sometimes added —$299.88 for a color TV, $3,060.21 for a Cougar. As a result of this fantastic price system the mint has been issuing about twice as many coins as it was issuing ten years ago and twice as many pennies each year as all the rest of the coins of all denominations. The older issues continue to circulate. Yet pennies are still in short supply.

It is true that both population and the national income have been increasing too. But not at this rate. And what is the matter with the ubiquitous credit cards that have promised to make coins obsolete? I can only conclude that the pennies are needed to take care of all those 59¢ and 99¢ prices in the markets where cash payments are expected. And the way to end this nuisance and cut government spending at the same time, is to drop the one-cent piece from our list of coins.

This should not interfere with our free enterprise price system. If more TV sets can be sold for $299.88 than for $300, let them do it. And if you get no change for your dollar at the checkstand when you purchase a 39¢ and a 59¢ package you will understand why. But it might lead you to ask why the prices weren't 40¢ and 60¢ in the first place. The market will be glad to oblige. The adjustment will, of course, be upward. But any good comparison shopper can readily make up for this and more with the greater ease of price comparisons. And "creeping" prices will be difficult. A 5¢ increase is likely to be noted.

Pennies are really obsolete. We managed very well without them in this state, as I have said, when they had at least twice the purchasing power that they have today. The "all-day-sucker" was larger than today's slot machine candy ball. For the latter we might provide tokens, or even let the children buy five for a nickel. I am not proposing to take candy away from children.

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Nicholas I of Russia first authorized the striking of platinum coins in 1828 — in three-, six-, and 12-ruble denominations.

OUR LOWLY PENNY

In connection with the article "Our Lowly Penny", which appeared in the Summer 1962 issue of "Calcoin News", and the follow-up article which appeared in the Spring 1964 issue, we have the following from **Miss Mabel Newcomer** (a retired Professor of Economics at Vassar College) in connection with the use of pennies in the San Francisco Bay Area shortly after the turn of the century:

"Thank you for your letter and the copies of Calcoin News. I am glad to have my memory of the penny in California supported. Your grandmother's story as to the offering of pennies for street car fare reminded me that this practice was still current some thirty years later when I was in college at Stanford.

"The economic students, when they learned the cent piece was legal tender up to 25¢, would try it out on the street car conductor. The pennies were always refused, whereupon they would quote the law to him—they had offered their payment in legal tender or valid currency—and could now ride free.

"I left California in 1915, but cannot recall the penny ever having any real use there at that time. I always associated it with parts east."

(Editor's note: — The above is in reply to a letter I wrote Miss Newcomer, about her article "Let The Buyer Beware", which appeared in the July 17, 1967 issue of the **Co-Op News** (a weekly publication issued by a grocery firm in the Bay Area). Her article "Let The Buyer Beware" appears elsewhere in this issue.)

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Greek coinage had its beginning in the electrum coins of Asia Minor in the eighth century BC.

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The formula for converting dates on Arabic coins to Christian dates is to add 622 to 97 percent of the Arabic date.

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Australia has three commemorative florins — (1927), the opening of Parliament House, Canberra; (1934), centennial of the founding of Melbourne; and (1951), the golden jubilee of the Commonwealth.

Calendar of Numismatic Events

CALIFORNIA STATE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

Oct. 30-Nov. 1 .....47th Semi-Annual Convention
Hilton Hotel, Los Angeles
Charles G. Colver, general chairman, 611 N. Banna Ave., Covina 91722
Wm. O. Wisslead, asst. gen chairman, 2053 Cypress Ave., Santa Ana 92707
Gordon Z. Greene, bourse chairman, P.O. Box 3412, South El Monte 91733
James R. Briggs, exhibit chairman, 865 W. Marshall Blvd., San Bernardino 92405

April 16-18, 1971 .....48th Semi-Annual Convention
Del Webb's Townehouse, Fresno
R. Paul Endler, general chairman, 862 W. Alamos Ave., Clovis 93612
Fred Tinkham, asst. gen. chairman, 1117 N. Irwin St., Hanford 93230
Wm. Y. Lee, bourse chairman, c/o Coast Stamp & Coin Co.,
Tulare and "U" Sts., Fresno 93721
James A. Creagmile, exhibit chairman, 237 N. Yosemite Ave., Fresno 93701

Fall 1971 .....49th Semi-Annual Convention
On the fabulous "Queen Mary," Long Beach

Fall 1972 .....51st Semi-Annual Convention
Santa Monica

OTHERS

June 19-21 .....Seventh Annual Convention of International Numismatics
Hilton Hotel, Los Angeles
Jerry Yahalom, general chairman, P.O. Box 893, Woodland Hills 91364

July 11-12 .....Fresno Numismatic Society's Central California Coinarama
Fresno District Fairgrounds
S. Everett Phillips, general chairman, 1110 Security Bank Bldg., Fresno 93721

July 19 .....California Exonumist Society Quarterly Meeting
Woman's Club, 172 W. Monterey Rd., Pomona
G. A. Ayres, bourse chairman, 172 W. Monterey Rd., Pomona 91761

Aug. 5-8 .....17th Annual Convention, Canadian Numismatic Association
Hotel Nova Scotian, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada
Elliott Fineberg, general chairman, c/o Halifax Coin Club,
Box 243, Armdale, Nova Scotia, Canada

Aug. 15-16.....Third Annual Coin Show, Mainliner Coin Club
Mainliner Clubhouse, 4025-31 Pacific Blvd., San Mateo
Violet Watrons, chairman, 19 Del Monte Place, San Mateo 94403

Aug. 18-22 .....79th Annual Convention, American Numismatic Association
Chase-Park Plaza Hotel, St. Louis, Missouri
D. L. Cooper, general chairman, 112 Signal Hill Dr., St. Louis, Mo. 63121

Sep. 12-13 .....Fifth Annual Northern Santa Barbara County Coin Show
Sponsored by Lompoc, Vanderberg AFB, Los Alamos and Santa Maria Coin Clubs
Veterans Memorial Hall, Pine and Tunnell Sts., Santa Maria
John Fazzone, bourse chairman, 166 Willow St., Vandenberg AFB 93437

Sep. 17-20 .....Annual Convention, Northern California Numismatic Association
Jack Tar Hotel, San Francisco
Denis Hooker, bourse chairman, 65 Post St., San Jose 95113

Oct. 18-19 .....13th Annual Coinarama, San Diego County Inter-Club Numismatic Council
Town and Country Hotel, Mission Valley
Mrs. Dorothy Baber, general chairman, 611 Oakwood Way, El Cajon 92021

Nov. 14-15 .....Fifth Annual Coin Show, Downey Numismatists
Downey Woman's Club, 9813 Paramount Blvd., Downey
Walter Snyder, general chairman, Box 165, Downey 90241